

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1 to 4 (previously cancelled)

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Claim 5 (previously amended)

A process for the preparation of spherical agglomerates of telithromycin crystals, comprising preparing a suspension of telithromycin crystals, and coating the crystals with a phase which is insoluble in telithromycin from which telithromycin progressively crystallizes.

Claim 6 (previously amended)

The process of claim 5, wherein a solution of telithromycin in acetone is used.

Claim 7 (currently amended)

The process of claim 5, wherein the crystallization takes place in an acetone/isopropyl ether mixture.

Claim 8 (previously amended)

The process of claim 5, where the crystallization is carried out between -5°C and -15°C.

Claims 9 to 13 (previously cancelled)

Claim 14 (previously cancelled)

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Claim 15 (previously amended)

A method of treating bacterial infections in humans comprising administering to humans in need thereof an antibactercidally effective amount of a compound of spherical agglomerate of telithromycin crystals surrounded by a layer of at least one polymer.

Claim 16 (currently added)

A method of forming a micro-encapsulated form of spherical agglomerates of telithromycin comprising surrounding spherical agglomerates of telithromycin with a layer of a polymer to obtain the micro-encapsulation form.
